

Fire Department



CPI Legacy

A record of improvements made by the City of
Salina, Kansas, since November 2012

CPI Improvements

November 2012 thru May 2016

SALINA CITY

30 Improvements

Fire Department

Fire Administration (W-MEDIATE)

Waiting

Mistakes

1. Automated the dispatching of fire and EMS calls. This will eliminate dispatching errors, while providing fire station specific calls
2. Increased capacity and improved accuracy by obtaining access in CAD viewer to view the phone numbers listed in the CAD paging system. This will permit the fire department an opportunity to ensure that all employees are added and that the most current numbers are listed in case of a call back

Excess movement

3. Reduce the cost of fuel and increased capacity by having all supplies delivered directly to sub stations from Office Max, rather than delivered to a central location and then transported to each station.

Do it right the first time

Inefficient Processes

4. Reduced vehicle costs, and increased capacity by converting the Training Request Form into an electronic form, rather than hard copy. The electronic form also (1) expedites the processing of training requests resulting in a faster turn-around for the submitter.
5. Standardized the use of operational channels on Fire calls by (1) having dispatchers assign channels to apparatus (change to channel 3) when in route in order to eliminate communication problems between the Fire Department and Dispatching.
6. Reduced costs by switching to Pageplus "Pay as you go" plan for cell phones, which eliminated the monthly charge for 10 phones. Pageplus charges \$10 for 100 minutes, which must be used during 120 days – this plan is great for low minute cell phone users.
7. Reduced costs and increased capacity by eliminating the need to hire Weis Fire to perform annual maintenance on existing rescue tools. The EVT specialist will be sent to technician school in order to learn how to perform required inspections and make repairs.
8. To facilitate easier access the personnel shift assignment board was reduced in size and mounted to the wall in the Lieutenants office.

9. Increased capacity by creating three different scenarios in the code red system. This will facilitate contacting Salina Fire Department personnel to notify them of a call back. This system can be activated by dispatch, the incident commander, or by any station officer.
10. Increased capacity and improved functionality by updating the daily staffing form in datatracker. It can now be emailed and saved in a spreadsheet format.
11. Fire Department and CT: Reduced costs by switching from using Cox Communications' fiber connection plan to Cox's standard coaxial connection plan that is priced based upon speed. This has been made possible by the advancement of the City's network infrastructure and the availability of more reliable and secure equipment that can be routed back into the City's network. While reducing costs this change also increases internet speed at the remote locations.
12. Increased the number of parking stalls available with the current remodel of station #1 by reversing parking from east to west and north to east. This also created a more even flow of exiting throughout the station.
13. Reduced costs by \$120 annually by cancelling the contract with Unifirst for cleaning the shop mechanics uniform. The shop mechanic will now wash uniforms at the station or at home.

Always do the right thing

14. Improved customer service by contacting the Insurance Services Office (evaluates information from communities on their structure fire suppression capabilities) and asked them to re-evaluate the rating for Rural Fire District 4, since this area is now served by the Salina Fire Department. Upon review the ISO rating for RFD 4 businesses was reduced by 5 points, which in turn will reduce insurance rates for these customers. Notification of this change is currently being sent to all businesses affected.
15. Improved relations with the citizens by preparing a weekly summary of Fire and EMS calls for publication in the Sunday edition of the Journal. Example: The Salina Fire Department responded to 162 calls during the week: 16 motor vehicle collisions, 5 transfers, 7 stand-bys, 1 pregnancy, 20 falls, 2 strokes, 1 assault, 10 respiratory, 12 seizures, 10 cardiac's, 49 general illness, 2 back pain, 1 poisoning, 3 substance abuse, 3 cut/lacerations, 2 electrical issues, 1 public service, 1 hazardous materials, 3 grass fires, 10 automatic fire alarms, 2 vehicle fires, and 1 cooking fire.

Transporting work

Excess Inventory

16. Reduced costs by combining a purchase order of "Trash Hooks" from both the Salina City and Saline County Fire Departments.

EMS (W-MEDIATE)

Waiting

17. Increased capacity by changing the medical directors meeting to the first Monday of the month in lieu of the first Thursday. This permits Dr. Herington to provide more one on one training with the medical staff at the station without interfering with his routine work schedule.

Mistakes

Excess Movement

Do it right the first time

Inefficient Processes

Always do the right thing

Transporting work

Excess Inventory

Prevention (W-MEDIATE)

Suppression (W-MEDIATE)

Waiting

18. Increased capacity by installing 110v charging unit in all 4 apparatus cabs to provide continuous charging of thermal image cameras. Previously each camera battery had to be pulled from the truck and manually charged in the office.

Mistakes

Excess Movement

19. Reduced costs by having a slide out tray for the back of unit 421 (Command Truck) custom built, so that gear and equipment can be accessed more easily.
20. Improved fire suppression services by installing an external compressed air source to the fire trucks so that they can recharge water pressure extinguishers at the scene. This helps if we need to use them more than once, and gets them ready for the next call.
21. Increased capacity by placing red reflective tape on each of the tools and pieces of equipment that belong on Quint 4.
22. Improved service quality by changing from the standard flat load to a modified flat that advances hose faster and more efficiently during emergency incidents. Crews practiced the new hose load in detail through a 3-day training exercise. All crews agreed that the modified flat was easier to deploy within a structure.

Do it right the first time

Inefficient Processes

23. During the first quarter of this year the EMS Chief with the assistance of the Medical Director established a new concept known as PIT CREW CPR. The PIT CREW approach is patterned after the NASCAR PIT crew, where every crew member has a designated responsibility before a call ever comes. This approach permits both immediate and simultaneous action, which has increased the patient survivability rate this year by 12.2%. This means that out of 27 cardiac arrest patients this year, 12 of them had a return of spontaneous circulation and had a pulse upon arrival at the hospital.
24. Improved communication systems by expanding internet access: (1) EMS Charts was set up so that medics could process patient care reports while driving back from a transfer, (2) using FD Data Tracker repair requests could also be done while in route, and (3) emails could be sent immediately throughout the internal City network. Once these were up and working the Code Red site was added to the Command Truck MDT so that we could initiate shift call backs from the scene.

25. Reduced costs by changing the service interval with Safety Kleen to a bi-yearly replacement of solvent at Station #3, instead of quarterly.
26. Improved security for unit 421 (Command Truck) by placing a spare key in the console. This means that the truck can be locked, while it is still running; so that the emergency lights can continue to operate, while at the same time preventing unwanted access to the vehicle.
27. Improved services by providing the Battalion Chiefs immediate access to a list of available units. This was done by setting up a magnetic board in the Battalion Chief's office with each unit number visually displayed in order to be able to see the units that were either available or out of service at a glance.
28. Reduced costs one time by \$2,575 by purchasing one set of new tires for the rear of unit 431, and remounting the old set of tires onto unit 428 in order to extend their useful life.
29. Increased capacity and reduced costs \$1,200 annually by increasing the length of the service interval on all medic and suppression vehicles from every 3,000 miles to every 5,000 miles.
30. Reduced costs \$1,500 annually by adding an additional onboard oxygen cylinder to each unit. Previously all units would exchange cylinders at 500 PSI remaining in the system. Now all of the oxygen can be used in each cylinder before replacement

Always do the right thing

Transporting work

Excess Inventory